

HOUSE RESOLUTION 175

By Weaver

A RESOLUTION to honor Guy Gilchrist on the publication of his children's book, *Nancy and Sluggo Love Tennessee: A Story About Keeping Tennessee Beautiful*.

WHEREAS, this body takes great pleasure in paying tribute to a gifted artist who uses his medium to teach the importance of conservation and recycling to this State's most precious resource: our children; and

WHEREAS, Guy Gilchrist currently writes and illustrates *Nancy*, the international comic strip first created in 1933 by artist Ernie Bushmiller; Nancy and her friend, Sluggo, are two of the most popular comic characters of all time, and *Nancy* is read each day in newspapers in eighty countries around the world and through the Internet by 57,000,000 readers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gilchrist has drawn *Nancy* since 1995; while producing 365 strips each year, he remains true to Nancy's sole mission: simply making people smile; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gilchrist utilizes much of his real-life experience in the strip; as a music lover, musician, and songwriter living in the Nashville area, he makes many references to music in *Nancy*; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, he unveiled a one-of-a-kind exhibit, *Nancy Loves Nashville*, at the Nashville International Airport, which exhibit revealed *Nancy's* setting of Three Rocks as a suburb just outside of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gilchrist teamed up with Keep Tennessee Beautiful in 2015 to write and illustrate the children's book, *Nancy and Sluggo Love Tennessee: A Story about Keeping Tennessee Beautiful*, his first children's book featuring Nancy and her friends; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee-themed book highlights some of our State's most popular tourist attractions from Mountain City to Memphis, while illustrating the importance of preserving our State's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, a proud resident of Tennessee who refers to her as "the most beautiful state in the nation," Mr. Gilchrist believes the best way to preserve Tennessee's natural beauty is by teaching our children the importance of both recycling and reducing litter; *Nancy and Sluggo Love Tennessee: A Story About Keeping Tennessee Beautiful* accomplishes this worthy goal, while also educating children about the wonderful attractions and places that make Tennessee special; and

WHEREAS, caring deeply about the future of Tennessee and desiring to inspire youth across Tennessee to do their part to Keep Tennessee Beautiful, Mr. Gilchrist dedicated the book "with love and light to the children of Tennessee because they are our future and our future looks bright!"; and

WHEREAS, Guy Gilchrist was inspired as a young artist by the stylings of Walter Lantz, Dr. Seuss, and Walt Disney; after graduating from high school, he began illustrating his own children's books and working for Weekly Reader Books; and

WHEREAS, at the age of twenty-four, he was selected to draw Jim Henson's *The Muppets* cartoon strip, which was wildly successful and printed worldwide in over 660 newspapers daily; throughout the years, Mr. Gilchrist has also set his hand to such notable cartoons as *Looney Tunes*, *Tom & Jerry*, *Fraggle Rock*, and *The Pink Panther*, and he was the co-creator of *Muppet Babies*; and

WHEREAS, he has authored over sixty books and has been recognized and honored internationally for his creativity and authorship; and

WHEREAS, Guy Gilchrist has used his artistry to positively impact the future of Tennessee's children, and he is deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and

congratulate Guy Gilchrist on the publication of his children's book, *Nancy and Sluggo Love Tennessee: A Story About Keeping Tennessee Beautiful*, commend his efforts to educate our youth about the value of environmental conservation, recycling, and keeping Tennessee beautiful for future generations, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.